



# Public Sector

## S A F E T Y R E P O R T

### *Public Sector Enforcement activity October through December 2002*

- \$61,610.00-total adjusted penalties

- Most frequent violations

**29CFR1910.157(e)** Fire extinguishers must be inspected monthly.

**29CFR1910.157(e)(2)** Employer shall ensure that fire extinguishers are subject to annual maintenance inspection.

**29CFR1910.120(q)(6)(i)** Emergency responders need to be trained to at least First Responder Awareness Level.

**29CFR1910.1030(g)(2)(iv)** Employers must conduct annual bloodborne pathogens training for all employees with occupational exposure.

**29CFR1910.134(e)(1)** Employee must have a medical evaluation to determine ability to use a respirator, before fit testing.

### *2002 Public Sector Enforcement year-end review*

Total inspections: 300

Total violations: 1,691

Unadjusted penalty amount	\$501,250.00
Good faith reduction amount	- \$ 8,050.00*
Size reduction	- <u>\$147,615.00**</u>
Adjusted penalty amount	\$345,585.00

Amount due after penalty discussion \$57,950.00

Penalties collected to date: \$70,995.00\*\*\*

\* If a public employer has an active safety committee, the penalty base amount is deducted by 15 or 25 percent.

\*\* Penalty base amount is deducted by 10 to 45 percent based on number of employees (fewer employees equals higher deduction).

\*\*\* Some public employers paid the penalty assessed and did not have a penalty discussion.

### *Inspection cycle completed*

Public Sector Enforcement recently completed its first three-year cycle of inspections of all State, County and Municipal employers. Following are the results of these activities:

- Number of facilities inspected - 3,784
- Number of violations cited - 1,579
- Proposed penalty amount - \$356,333.80
- Actual penalty amount collected - \$76,285.00

The difference between the proposed penalty amount and the actual penalty amount collected is \$280,040.80. This is the amount of money returned to the public sector to be used for correction of the violations. This is done using the existing citation process, which allows the Bureau to discuss the penalties if the public sector employer so requests within 15 working days of receipt of the citation.

Public Sector Enforcement will inspect all public sector workplaces in the next cycle. Employers can get **free, non-enforcement consultations** to help them improve safety and health by calling **SafetyWorks!** at 624-6400 or 877-SAFE-345.

*Regulations and compliance assistance for Maine public sector workplaces can be found on the internet at <http://www.Maine.gov/labor/bls/newpsw.htm>*

The Maine Department of Labor provides equal opportunity in employment and programs. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities.

**Return Service Requested**

MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF  
LABOR  
*Public Sector Enforcement*

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Winter 2003

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*The Public Sector Safety Report* is issued quarterly to inform public sector employers and employees of safety and health enforcement issues. Published by the Maine Department of Labor, the compliance and enforcement agency for occupational safety and health regulations for public sector workplaces in Maine.

***Please post this Report to share the information with employees.***

To be added to the mailing list, or to make address corrections, send information to *Public Sector Safety Report*, MDOL, 45 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0045, fax to (207) 624-6449 or e-mail at [webmaster.bls@Maine.gov](mailto:webmaster.bls@Maine.gov) TTY 1-800-794-1110.